

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
"A Tradition of Service"  
OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: June 29, 2006

FILE NO.: SH2163787

FROM: JOHNNY G. JURADO, COMMANDER  
ERIC B. SMITH, COMMANDER  
KENNETH J. BRAZILE, COMMANDER  
CECIL W. RHAMBO, COMMANDER

TO: KARYN MANNIS, CAPTAIN  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE DISPOSITION:**

**DEPUTY EDMUNDO TORRES # [REDACTED]**  
**DEPUTY RUSSELL HELBING # [REDACTED]**  
**OPERATION SAFE STREETS BUREAU**

On January 25, 2005 at approximately 2240 hours, Compton Operation Safe Streets Bureau's Deputy Torres (driver) and Deputy Helbing were working uniformed patrol/gang enforcement in the city of Compton. They were traveling east on Compton Boulevard approaching the Redondo Beach Boulevard separation when they observed the suspects' vehicle turning onto eastbound Compton Boulevard from Redondo Beach Boulevard at a high rate of speed. As they followed the vehicle, they observed it fail to stop for a red signal light at Wadsworth Avenue. Deputy Torres sped up to catch to the vehicle, which now had slowed and stopped for the red signal light at Aprilla Avenue. Deputy Torres stopped in the #1 lane next to the vehicle. Deputy Helbing shined his flashlight into the vehicle's interior and observed two male Hispanics (later identified as Suspect Nunez and Suspect Morado). The signal light turned green and Deputy Torres maneuvered in behind the suspects' vehicle and initiated a traffic stop for vehicle code violations.

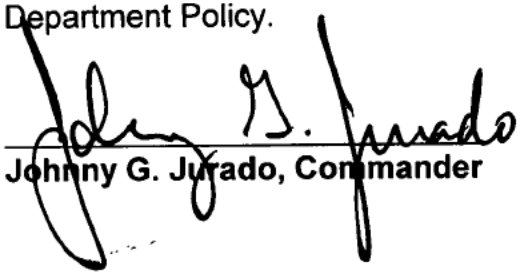
The vehicle yielded, and as it slowed and started to pull over, the driver's door started to open. Deputy Torres got out of the radio car with his gun in hand. He immediately saw that the driver (Suspect Nunez) had already exited the vehicle. Suspect Nunez was holding a gun and turned toward Deputy Torres and fired five to seven rounds at him. (At least three of the rounds struck the front of the radio car; two of the rounds impacted the windshield directly in front of the driver's seat, but Deputy Torres had already exited the vehicle.) Deputy Torres returned fire. His weapon malfunctioned and retreated to the rear of the radio car. Concurrently, Deputy Helbing took cover behind a car parked adjacent to the north curblane. From that position, Deputy Helbing saw the vehicle's passenger (Suspect Morado) attempting to aim an assault rifle out the passenger's window. Deputy Helbing fired several rounds at the passenger. The suspects' vehicle then sped off eastbound on Compton Boulevard. The deputies pursued. Deputy Helbing broadcast the shooting and the pursuit. An aero unit joined in the pursuit.

As the pursuit traversed several streets, Suspect Morado fired the assault rifle several times from the passenger window at the pursuing deputies. The deputies did not return

fire during the pursuit. The suspects turned eastbound onto a residential street south of Compton Boulevard, abandoned their vehicle and forced entry into a residence at [REDACTED] Cypress Avenue by shooting the locks from, and beating open, a security screen door. The suspects took the residents at that location hostage for approximately three hours before surrendering to Special Enforcement Bureau. No force was used during the arrests of the suspects.

On June 29, 2006, the Executive Force Review Committee convened and conducted a review regarding the facts of this case. The applicable policies that were evaluated by the committee were: MMP § 3-01/025.00: Use of Force; MMP § 3-01/025.30: Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; MMP § 3-01/025.10: Unreasonable Force; and MMP § 3-01/050.10: Performance to Standards. Concerning:

MMP § 3-01/025.00: Use of Force, MMP § 3-01/025.30: Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; and MMP § 3-01/025.10: Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by the deputy was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy. MMP § 3-01/050.10: Performance to Standards, the Committee determined that the tactics employed by the deputy in this incident were within Department Policy.



Johnny G. Jurado, Commander

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## **OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM**

## **INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

## **EXHIBITS A THROUGH K**

- A** Compton Station's reports under File Number 406-01428-2832-055.
- B** Suspect Erick Nunez' criminal history.
- C** Suspect Frank Morado's criminal history.
- D** Crime Scene Diagrams with locations of recovered evidence.
- E** Photographs of different scenes throughout the incident.
- F** Firearms Examiner's Report.
- G** Photograph of suspects Uzi Pistol.
- H** Photograph of suspects Norinco, SKS, 7.62x39mm rifle.
- I** Photograph of suspects Glock, .45 Caliber, semiautomatic pistol.
- J** Firearms report from Firearms Examiner Tracy Peck and Photographs of damage.
- K** Felony Complaint filed by Compton District Attorneys Office.

## **MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS**

Administrative Rights Form for Deputy Russell Helbing.  
Administrative Rights Form for Deputy Edmundo Torres.  
Training Records for Deputy Russell Helbing.  
Training Records for Deputy Edmundo Torres.

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

## Officer Involved Shooting

Page 1 of 4

Report Date: <b>01-26-06</b>	Bureau/Station/Facility: <b>Compton Station</b>	Admin. Invest? <input type="checkbox"/>	Hit? <input type="checkbox"/>
------------------------------	---	---	-------------------------------

Incident Information			
URN: <b>406-01428-2832-055</b>	Date: <b>01-26-06</b>	Time: <b>0245</b>	
City or Station: <b>Compton</b>		Nature of Incident: <b>Deputy Involved Non - Hit Shooting</b>	
Location: <b>Compton Blvd E/of Aprilia Avenue</b>			
Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard Beach Business Freeway Industrial Park Parking Lot Residence Rural School <u>Street</u> Other: _____	Lighting (circle only one): <u>Darkness</u> Daylight Other Street Lights  Weather (circle only one): <u>Clear</u> Cloudy Fog Rain  Distance: <b>25ft</b>	Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental <u>Armed Person</u> Fleeing Suspect Foot Pursuit Gun Take Away Moving Vehicle Sniper/Ambush Startle Struggle Involved <u>Traffic Stop</u> Unarmed Person Unintentional <u>Vehicle Pursuit</u> Warrant Service Warning Shot Other: _____	Initiated by (circle only one): Arrest Warrant Call <u>Observation</u> One Person Unit Other Search Warrant <u>Two Person Unit</u>  Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective Inmate Transport Other <u>Routine Patrol</u>  Aero Unit? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Canine Unit? <input type="checkbox"/>
Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy <b>14</b>	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect <b>B/T 10-20</b>		

Employee Witnesses					
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): EM PM Day	Shift Type (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
	<b>None</b>				
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): EM PM Day	Shift Type (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one): EM PM Day	Shift Type (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses				
Last Name	None	First Name	M.I.	
Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.	
Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name		First Name	M.I.	
Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph

Supervisors				
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting
	<b>Tatreau</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>D.</b>	Witness to shooting Involved in shooting
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more): On Duty Present during shooting
				Witness to shooting Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant			
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
	<b>N/A</b>		

Watch Commander			
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
	<b>Hellmold</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>J.</b>

PSTD Use Only
SH # <u>2163787</u>



# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 406-01428-2832-055

Page 3 of 4

Involved Employee										
<b>E_1</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
			Helbing			Russ				
	Sex:	Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	M	W	Deputy	GET		160G12				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission?		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case?		Coroner Case #		Interviewed?	
	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
	8				Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest					
Age:	Height:	Weight:		Plain Clothes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest						
		602 245		Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest						
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used?			Patrol Certification?		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings?		Number of Prior Shootings:	
<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>							
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
<b>E_2</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
			Torres			Edmundo				
	Sex:	Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	M	H	Deputy	GET		160G12				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission?		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case?		Coroner Case #		Interviewed?	
	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
	6				Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest					
Age:	Height:	Weight:		Plain Clothes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest						
		508 165		Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest						
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used?			Patrol Certification?		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings?		Number of Prior Shootings:	
<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>							
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
<b>E</b>	Employee #		Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
	Sex:	Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):				
	ShiftTime (circle only one):		ShiftType (circle only one):		Intoxication/Drug Usage?		Substance Used:			
	EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty		<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Hospital Admission?		Hospital Name:		Coroner Case?		Coroner Case #		Interviewed?	
	<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:		Duty Time (hrs):		Clothing (circle only one):		Other Factors:			
					Plain Clothes no Vest Raid Jacket w/ Vest					
Age:	Height:	Weight:		Plain Clothes w/ Vest Uniform no Vest						
				Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest						
Range Qualification Date:			PPC Qualification Date:			Laser Training Date:				
Certified with Weapon Used?			Patrol Certification?		Certification Unit:		Prior Shootings?		Number of Prior Shootings:	
<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>				<input type="checkbox"/>			
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		
Field Training Officer Emp #			Last Name			First Name		M.I.		

# Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

URN: 406-01428-2832-055

Page 4 of 4

## Suspect Information

S 1	Last Name: Morado		First Name: Frank		M.I.: A.
	AKA Last Name: "Dopey"		First Name:		M.I.:
	Sex: M	Race: H	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age: 20	D.O.B.: 08-29-85	Height: 505	Weight: 125	FBI #:
	Booking #: 8902929	Primary Charge: 664/187 PC		Secondary Charge: 207 PC	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make: Honda		Model: Civic	Year: 1993	
S 2	Last Name: Nunez		First Name: Erick		M.I.: J.
	AKA Last Name: "Smiley"		First Name:		M.I.:
	Sex: M	Race: H	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age: 21	D.O.B.: 10-22-84	Height: 509	Weight: 210	FBI #:
	Booking #: 8902935	Primary Charge: 664/187 PC		Secondary Charge: 207 PC	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make: Honda		Model: Civic	Year: 1993	
S	Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:
	AKA Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age:	D.O.B.:	Height:	Weight:	FBI #:
	Booking #:	Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make:		Model:	Year:	
S	Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:
	AKA Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:
	Sex:	Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:	
	Age:	D.O.B.:	Height:	Weight:	FBI #:
	Booking #:	Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	Substance Used:	
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Vehicle Make:		Model:	Year:	

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**  
**DEPUTY INVOLVED NON-HIT SHOOTING**  
**IAB SH - 2163787**  
**URN: 406-01428-2832-055**

On Wednesday, January 25, 2006, at approximately 2240 hours, Sergeants Elier Morejon and Diana Holloway along with Lieutenant Curtis Jensen of the Internal Affairs Bureau responded to 2408 Compton Boulevard, Compton, regarding a Deputy Involved Non-Hit Shooting. Deputies Edmundo Torres and Russell Helbing, Operations Safe Streets Bureau, were involved in a shooting during a traffic stop. The two occupants of the vehicle, during the traffic stop, exited and started to fire at both deputies with a handgun and a high power rifle. Deputies Torres and Helbing returned fire and the suspects fled the scene. After a short pursuit, suspects fled from their vehicle and made entry a residence by shooting the rear door. Inside the residence were several victims who were taken hostage by the suspects for several hours before giving up to Special Enforcement Bureau.

The summary of this incident is based on information obtained from written reports and interviews of the involved employees. **Refer to Exhibit A - Compton Station Reports**

**INVOLVED PERSONNEL:**

**TORRES**, Edmundo, Deputy, # [REDACTED]  
Operation Safe Streets Bureau  
Office of Homeland Security

**HELBING**, Russell, Deputy # [REDACTED]  
Operation Safe Streets Bureau  
Office of Homeland Security

**EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:**

**TORRES**, Edmundo

Date of Employment:  
Date assigned to Patrol:  
Completed Patrol Training:  
Prior Shooting Incidents:  
Prior Founded Force Incidents:

May 25, 1994  
[REDACTED]



HELBING, Russell

Date of Employment: February 05, 1990  
Date assigned to Patrol:  
Completed Patrol Training:  
Prior Shooting Incidents:  
Prior Founded Force Incidents:

SUSPECTS:

NUNEZ, Erick MH/21

Suspect Nunez

Refer to Exhibit B - Nunez'

Booking Package and Criminal Record

MORADO, Frank MH/20

Suspect Morado

Refer to Exhibit C - Morado's Booking

Package and Criminal Record

WITNESSES:

Sworn:

None

Civilian:

None

INJURIES:

None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

Several expended shell casings from Deputy Helbing's and Torres' duty weapons were recovered at the scene on Compton Boulevard. Several expended shell casings from the suspects weapons were also recovered from Compton Boulevard and Wilmington Avenue. The suspects vehicle was recovered at the scene. **Refer to Exhibit D - Crime Scene Diagrams with location of recovered evidence.**

### INVESTIGATOR OBSERVATIONS:

The shooting locations were typical city streets. Compton Boulevard being a standard four lane Boulevard running east and west and Wilmington Avenue being a four lane Avenue running north and south. **Refer to Exhibit E - Photographs of scenes throughout the incident.**

### WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

Deputy Torres fired one round from his duty weapon: **Beretta 9mm Luger Caliber, Model 92FS, double action semiautomatic pistol, Serial Number E [REDACTED] Z.**

Deputy Helbing fired thirteen rounds from his duty weapon: **Heckler & Koch, Model USP, .45 Auto semiautomatic pistol, Serial Number [REDACTED]**

The weapons were examined, test fired, and found to be functional by Firearms Examiner Donna Reynalds. **Refer to Exhibit F - Firearms Examiner Report**

### WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECTS:

Uzi Pistol, IMI .45 Auto caliber, Serial Number [REDACTED] **Refer to Exhibit G - Photograph**

Norinco, SKS Rifle, 7.62x39mm Caliber, Serial Number [REDACTED] **Refer to Exhibit H - Photograph**

Glock, Model 21, .45 Auto Semiautomatic pistol, Serial Number [REDACTED] **Refer to Exhibit I - Photograph**

### PROPERTY DAMAGE:

Deputies Helbing and Torres' radio car hood and windshield were struck several times by gunfire from the suspects weapons. A Kia Optima (Lic# [REDACTED]) was struck twice from gunfire from Deputy Helbing's gun. A Ford Explorer (Lic# [REDACTED]) was also hit by a single round, unknown as to the weapon which it was fired from. The residence at [REDACTED] Cypress was also hit numerous times with gunfire from the suspects as they made entry. The suspects Honda was struck several times by deputy gunfire. **Refer to Exhibit J - Firearms Report from Firearms Examiner Tracy Peck and Photographs of damage.**

### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR/CHARGES FILED:

On January 31, 2006, Detective Robert Gray, Operation Safe Streets, presented the case to the Compton District Attorney's Office for filing considerations. District Attorney Scott Goodwin reviewed the facts of this case and filed twenty eight felony counts against Suspect Nunez and twenty six felony counts against Suspect Morado. **Refer to Exhibit K - Felony Complaint**

## **LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS:**

This incident occurred during the night. The weather was cool and clear.

## **INVOLVED EMPLOYEE'S STATEMENTS:**

### **DEPUTY EDMUNDO TORRES**

Deputy Torres said he and his partner, Deputy Russell Helbing, were working Unit 160G12 in the City of Compton on the night of the incident. Deputy Torres was the driver and Deputy Helbing was the passenger in their marked black and white Sheriff's vehicle. Deputy Torres is assigned to Compton's Operations Safe Streets unit. Deputy Torres said they were traveling eastbound on Compton Boulevard approaching a stop sign at the corner of Redondo Beach Boulevard. While stopped at the intersection Deputy Torres said he saw a red Honda Civic traveling at a high rate of speed eastbound on Redondo Beach Boulevard onto eastbound Compton Boulevard. Deputy Torres said that he then saw the vehicle driving towards Wadsworth Avenue and fail to stop for the red circular light. Deputy Torres said he caught up to the Honda at the next intersection as it stopped for the red signal light at the corner of Aprilia Avenue and Compton Boulevard. The Honda stopped in the number two lane facing eastbound and Deputy Torres stopped his vehicle next to it in the number one lane. Deputy Torres said that Deputy Helbing illuminated the interior of the Honda with his flashlight which allowed them to see two male Hispanics, one being the driver and one in the front passenger seat. The light turned green and the Honda quickly accelerated eastbound on Compton Boulevard.

Deputy Torres said he pulled in behind the Honda and turned on his red light in an attempt to make a traffic stop for the vehicle code violations they had just observed. Deputy Torres said that the vehicle started to slow down but could not pull over to the curb because of parked vehicles. He said that the vehicle's driver's door started to open prior to the car coming to a stop. Deputy Torres immediately told Deputy Helbing of his observations. Deputy Torres thought that the car was possibly stolen and that the occupants were going to run. The vehicle came to a stop in the number two lane of traffic and immediately the driver exited the vehicle. Deputy Torres said he stopped his car and exited holding his gun in his hand. As Deputy Torres exited his vehicle he saw the driver turn towards him holding a gun and start firing approximately five to seven rounds at him. Deputy Torres said that fearing for his life he returned fire at the driver. Deputy Torres said that after he fired the first round he realized that his gun had jammed and was un-operational. Deputy Torres said that he could hear rounds striking his vehicle and shattering his front windshield. Deputy Torres said that he retreated to the rear of his vehicle in an attempt to fix his gun. Deputy Torres was able to fix his gun and as he was about to re-engage the suspect he saw that he (driver) along with the passenger were getting back into the vehicle. The vehicle immediately sped off eastbound Compton Boulevard. Deputy Torres said he got back into his car and yelled at Deputy Helbing, "Let's get back in the car."

Deputy Torres said that Deputy Helbing ran into their car and immediately got on the radio (patch) and advised all Compton units that they had just been involved in a shooting and were in pursuit of the suspect vehicle. Deputy Torres said that they pursued the suspect vehicle eastbound Compton Boulevard at speeds between fifty and seventy miles per hour. As they came to the intersection of Compton Boulevard and Central Avenue, Deputy Torres saw the front passenger lean out the open passenger window holding what he described as an "AK-47" rifle and start firing at them. Deputy Torres slowed their vehicle down and left about fifty yards between the two vehicles. Deputy Helbing continued to broadcast that the suspects were now firing at them during the pursuit. Deputy Torres said that Aero Bureau joined the pursuit and took over the broadcast responsibilities. Deputy Torres said that the vehicle continued eastbound Compton Boulevard and turned onto southbound Wilmington Avenue traveling southbound in the northbound lanes. Deputy Torres turned onto southbound Wilmington Avenue and saw that the suspect vehicle began to slow down. He saw that the front passenger leaned out the passenger window and again started to fire the "AK-47" in their direction. Deputy Torres said he immediately stopped their vehicle and he and Deputy Helbing both ducked in order to avoid being hit by the gunfire. Deputy Torres said he could hear the rounds striking the street near their car. Deputy Torres said they got up when they no longer heard the rounds hitting the street. They then saw the suspect vehicle accelerating southbound Wilmington Avenue onto eastbound Laurel Street. Deputy Torres drove to Laurel Street, stopped and looked eastbound before turning. Deputy Torres said that he could not see the vehicle and then heard the air unit broadcasting that the suspects had exited their vehicle and were running. Deputy Torres said he drove eastbound on Laurel Street until he saw the abandoned suspect vehicle. Deputy Torres said that the suspects ran into the backyard of [REDACTED] W. Cypress Avenue and attempted to enter the residence. The suspects found that the rear door to the residence was locked so they opened fire on the door gaining entry and taking four hostages. The area was contained by Special Enforcement Bureau for several hours until the Crisis Negotiation Team was able to talk the suspects into giving up without further incident.

#### **DEPUTY RUSSELL HELBING**

Deputy Helbing said he and his partner, Deputy Torres were traveling eastbound on Compton Boulevard approaching a stop sign at the corner of Redondo Beach Boulevard. While stopped at the intersection Deputy Helbing said he saw a red Honda Civic traveling at a high rate of speed eastbound on Redondo Beach Boulevard onto eastbound Compton Boulevard. Deputy Helbing said that he then saw the vehicle driving towards Wadsworth Avenue and fail to stop for the red circular light. Deputy Helbing said they caught up to the Honda as it stopped for the red signal light at the corner of Aprilia Avenue and Compton Boulevard. The Honda stopped in the number two lane facing eastbound and Deputy Torres stopped their vehicle next to it in the number one lane. Deputy Helbing illuminated the interior of the Honda with his flashlight which allowed him to see the driver and front passenger who were two male Hispanics. Deputy Helbing said that the light turned green and the Honda quickly accelerated eastbound on Compton Boulevard.

Deputy Helbing said that they initiated a traffic stop of the red Honda for the vehicle code violations. Deputy Helbing said the vehicle came to a stop in the number two lane, alongside of cars that were parked along the south curblane of Compton Boulevard. Deputy Helbing said that as he exited his vehicle he heard Deputy Torres saying that the driver's door was opening. Deputy Helbing said he saw the driver's door open, the driver exited and turned towards Deputy Torres while holding a handgun in his right hand. Deputy Helbing saw the driver bring the gun up and start rapidly firing at Deputy Torres. Deputy Helbing said that he saw Deputy Torres drop down on the opposite side of their radio car and out of view. Deputy Helbing said that he was about to shoot the driver in an effort to stop him from firing at Deputy Torres when he saw the passenger attempting to exit the passenger door also holding a gun. Deputy Helbing said that the passenger was attempting to exit the vehicle with a rifle which resembled an "AK-47." Deputy Helbing said that he ran behind the vehicles which were parked facing eastbound on the south curblane of Compton Boulevard. Deputy Helbing said as he was taking cover he heard several loud shots coming from the passengers side of the suspect vehicle. Deputy Helbing said he was in fear of his life and that of Deputy Torres, whom he thought was shot and laying on the street, so he looked over the roof of the car he was behind and fired his weapon at the passenger who was still seated in the passenger seat with the AK-47 pointing it in his direction. Deputy Helbing said that the suspect vehicle immediately sped off eastbound Compton Boulevard. Deputy Helbing started to run back towards his vehicle when he saw that the passenger in the suspect vehicle was still holding the AK-47 out the window pointed in his direction. Deputy Helbing said that fearing he was about to get shot he fired several more rounds at the front passenger as the suspect vehicle drove away.

Deputy Helbing said that as he reached his car he saw Deputy Torres sitting in the driver's seat. Deputy Helbing immediately got on the radio and put out a broadcast that they had been involved in a deputy involved shooting and were now in pursuit of the suspect vehicle. Deputy Helbing said that they pursued the suspect vehicle eastbound Compton Boulevard at speeds between fifty and seventy miles per hour. As they came to the intersection of Compton Boulevard and Central Avenue, Deputy Helbing saw the front passenger lean out the open passenger window holding the "AK-47" rifle and start firing at them. Deputy Helbing said that Deputy Torres slowed their vehicle down and left about fifty yards between the two vehicles. Deputy Helbing continued to update Compton units that the suspects were firing at them during the pursuit. Deputy Helbing said that Aero Bureau joined the pursuit shortly after and took over the broadcast responsibilities. Deputy Helbing said that the vehicle continued eastbound Compton Boulevard and turned onto southbound Wilmington Avenue traveling southbound in the northbound lanes. Deputy Helbing said they made a right turn onto southbound Wilmington Avenue and saw that the suspect vehicle began to slow down. Deputy Helbing said he saw that the front passenger leaned out the passenger window and again started to fire the "AK-47" in their direction. Deputy Helbing said that Deputy Torres immediately stopped their vehicle and they both ducked in order to avoid being hit by the gunfire. Deputy Helbing said he could hear the rounds striking the street near their car. Deputy Helbing said they got up when they no longer heard rounds hitting the street near them. As they got up they saw the suspect vehicle accelerating southbound Wilmington Avenue onto eastbound Laurel Street. Deputy Helbing said they drove to Laurel Street, stopped and looked eastbound before turning the

corner. Deputy Helbing said that they could not see the vehicle any longer and then heard the air unit broadcasting that the suspects had exited their vehicle and were running. Deputy Helbing said they drove eastbound on Laurel Street until they saw the abandoned suspect vehicle. Deputy Helbing said that the suspects ran to the backyard of [REDACTED] W. Cypress Avenue and attempted to enter the residence. The suspects found that the rear door to the residence was locked so they opened fire on the door gaining entry and taking four hostages. The area was contained by Special Enforcement Bureau for several hours until the Crisis Negotiation Team was able to talk the suspects into giving up without further incident.

### **CIVILIAN WITNESSES**

None

### **SUSPECTS' STATEMENTS**

Investigators attempted to interview Suspects Nunez and Morado, on January 25, 2006, who refused to be interviewed.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

There were several 7.62x39mm and .45 Auto expended shell casings found inside of the Honda. Also recovered inside of the Honda was Glock .45 Auto in an unloaded condition with an empty magazine and the slide back. A shoulder holster, "Uncle Mike's" size 16 was found inside of the residence which was later identified as belonging to the suspects.